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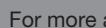
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Cops deliver charges in mail theft

1 of 14 people arrested hit with 132 offences **PAGE 6**

'The most credible lead that we have'

Dozens of objects turn up in search for airliner **PAGE 8**

TAKING CONTROL

DAY 2 OF METRO'S LOOK AT FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLS: DOES THE NEW ACT GET A PASSING GRADE? **PAGES 12 & 13**



SPRING BLIZZARDS

Crews were working hard to clear up Churchill Square Wednesday, as the city was hit with another dumping of snow. The snow was expected to end by Thursday, with warmer weather forecast for the weekend. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Missing woman's car found near Rocky Mountain House

Search continues.

Anina Hundsdoerfer's car provides few details about her disappearance



LEAH
GERMAIN

leah.germain@metronews.ca

Four days after she was first reported missing, friends of an Edmonton woman are turning to police and RCMP in Rocky Mountain House to lead the search and rescue efforts.

Anina Hundsdoerfer, 32, and her blue Toyota Echo both went missing Saturday afternoon.

While authorities recovered her vehicle shortly after before 4 p.m. Tuesday near Rocky Mountain House, few clues have been revealed on what happened to Hundsdoerfer.

A lover of outdoors and tree scientist by trade, Hundsdoer-

fer's friends can only speculate why her car would be found in such a remote area.

"She is a researcher in forest services," Theresa Chapman said Wednesday. "She studies pine beetles, she's fairly outdoorsy. I just don't know."

Don Livingston, a member of local Fish and Wildlife enforcement in the Rocky Mountain House area, said the region still has a lot of snow so it would be unusual for a person to be hiking this early in the spring.

Hiking unlikely

"It's a pretty remote area at this time of year."

Don Livingston of local Fish and Wildlife enforcement in Rocky Mountain House

"It's a pretty remote area at this time of year," Livingston said.

Fish and Wildlife officers were first to locate Hundsdoer-

fer's car Tuesday, spotting it on Forestry Trunk Road, two hours west of Rocky Mountain House.

A spokesperson for Rocky Mountain House RCMP confirmed officers were called to the scene, where they found the car with only a snowbrush inside.

While authorities claim there has been no indication of foul play in the disappearance, police are now searching the Rocky Mountain House and Nordegg area.

The 32-year-old Edmonton woman was last seen at her downtown office Saturday, where she works as a forest entomologist with the Alberta government.

Friends had hoped finding Hundsdoerfer's vehicle would lead to more clues on her disappearance.

Born in Germany, Hundsdoerfer grew up in South Africa and studied in England before moving to Canada eight years ago.

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Dr. Bin Xu is creating sustainable solutions as Research Chair in Peatland Restoration at NAIT's Boreal Research Institute in Peace River.

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London calling

Redford's final travel bill of \$131K includes English retreat

The bill for Alison Redford's final trip as premier of Alberta has come in at \$131,000 — and includes taxpayer-funded flights to London for a private weekend getaway.

Overall costs for the two-week January trip were released Wednesday by the International and Intergovernmental Relations Department. Itemized receipts are to be posted online next month.

The trade mission and networking trip to India and Switzerland included a stopover for private time in London that was not on the original itinerary.

Redford had planned to visit Canadian troops in Afghanistan for two days, but that was cancelled due to a flare-up of violence.

Instead, Redford, her chief of staff Farouk Adatia and Redford aide Brad Stables flew to London for the weekend at taxpayer expense, said Derek Cummings, press secretary for the department.

He said the flight costs were considered government business because Redford was still in the middle of her trip and her travel plans changed due to events beyond her control.

"They wouldn't have flown home (at that time)."

All other expenses for London were covered by the participants personally, Cummings said. NDP critic Rachel Notley suggested Redford could have thought of taxpayers first and stayed in India a couple more days when the Afghanistan trip changed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The proposed Blatchford redevelopment would be home to 30,000 people by the time it is fully built out according to the city's estimates. CONTRIBUTED

More oversight to be added to Blatchford development

New 'hood. Council looking for expert advice on project



RYAN TUMILTY

ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

City councillors moved ahead with the Blatchford redevelopment plan Wednesday, but the plan will get more scrutiny before it can really take off.

The proposed development aims to bring 30,000 people to the former city centre airport site. The development is proposed to have world-leading environmental features, but some councillors were asking

Wednesday if the city is going ahead with more green development than it can afford.

"We have said we want a green development. We don't know how green and at what cost," said Coun. Michael Oshry.

Oshry was one of several councillors who called for a pause on planning work while the city brought in an expert panel to offer outside advice on the project.

He said he wants an environmentally sustainable development, but said the city needs to understand how much that will add to the cost and how much buyers will be willing to pay.

"We need to look at the risk

and reward of this whole development, before we get into the minutiae," he said.

The city will get the expert panel, along with more information on five development scenarios for the site, but the planning work will continue in the interim.

Mayor Don Iveson said it didn't make sense to wait now.

"We can start to do some work about where the pipes are going to go, but whether those pipes include district energy or not, I don't think we are there yet," he said.

Iveson said the city shouldn't keep the land sitting idle after spending so much political and financial capital.

"The longer the land sits

Development update

The city's updated development scenario includes slightly less space for parks and a bigger emphasis on townhouses and low-rise apartment buildings to attract families.

- The city hopes to be selling 250 residential units per year in the development by 2015, rising to 500 units by 2018.

empty the more lost opportunity we have to bring families into the core of our city," he said.

1
NEWS

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Residential schools

Capturing the legacy of Canada's dark past

An Edmonton photographer hopes his photos can help speak for those who won't be able to speak for themselves, as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission comes to Edmonton this week.

Ken Armstrong, a member of the Sagedge First Nation, unveiled 20 photographs at city hall Wednesday that he said show the long-term impact of the schools.

"I wanted to show the effects of the residential school system that people still live with today," he said.

Armstrong, who also works as a residential school worker at Boyle Street Community Services, said many of the people he photographed are no longer alive and he hopes his photos help tell their stories.

"There are people in the photos who did go to residential schools, had a terrible time, had a hard life and have passed away before they can get any compensation, before they can tell their stories," he said.

The commission's hearings begin Thursday and run through Sunday at the Shaw Conference Centre and are the last in a nationwide series stemming from the Canadian government's apology.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



Ken Armstrong
RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Unsanitary conditions leads to tattoo scare



Dr. Christopher Sikora, medical officer of health for the Edmonton Zone, issued a warning Wednesday to Edmontonians who may have gotten a tattoo at an unsanitary, home-run operation. METRO FILE

Tazzman Tattoo. AHS warns people to get tested after home-run tattoo shop shuttered

Clients of an Edmonton tattoo parlour may have a whole different kind of regret, after Alberta Health Services closed a home-based operation.

The province issued a closure order for Tazzman Tattoo, a home-run operation near 107 Avenue and 105 Street, and artist Steve Tazz Devilman after AHS inspectors visited the residence.

"The sanitary conditions were unacceptable," said Edmonton Zone Medical Officer of Health Dr. Chris Sikora, adding the operation was not in compliance with Alberta Health Services (AHS) regulations.

AHS has issued a warning for Edmontonians who received fresh ink from the shop to get tested for viruses, including hepatitis B and C.

and HIV.

AHS believes the home-run tattoo parlour was not using proper sterilization or sanitation processes when administering tattoos.

Sikora noted there was no record-keeping or list of tattoo clients, so it is unclear how many people could have been affected.

"We haven't found any particular singular case of hepatitis B, C or HIV linked back to this home-based tattoo operation," he said.

Alberta has had very few cases of unsanitary tattoo operations, Sikora added, estimating only a handful have had to be shut down in last five years.

"This has fortunately been a relatively unusual occurrence around the Edmonton area.

"We have had a number of home-based tattoo operators closed by issue of an order across the Alberta context. Some in the Red Deer area, some in the Lethbridge area."

LEAH GERMAIN/METRO

Alta. to have at least one less air ambulance

At least one of Alberta's 12 medevac planes will be taken offline next month, says a service provider, as last-minute negotiations continue over contracts set to expire on March 31.

Integra Air won't have its regular air-ambulance fleet of three King Air B200s available in April, according to CEO Brent Gateman, due to uncertainty surrounding the contracts.

"We are currently taking some of those offline and replacing them with some temporary aircraft until we know exactly what long-term (con-

tract) terms we do have," he said Wednesday.

Integra is one of five air-ambulance providers currently negotiating extensions with Alberta Health Services.

Gateman expects to have an agreement in place by the end of the week but said the situation has been challenging.

"We're now kind of scrambling," he said.

AHS wouldn't make anyone available for an interview Wednesday but issued a written statement from Rick Trimp, interim president of population health and provincewide

services.

"If an Albertan needs an air ambulance, they will receive this service without a gap in service provision," Trimp wrote.

Wildrose health critic Heather Forsyth called the situation "unacceptable."

"You just can't expect people to try and plan things three days before they're hoping — hoping — to get a new contract," she said. "It just shows how dysfunctional, quite frankly, that Alberta Health Services is."

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



The Beechcraft King Air B200 is the aircraft of choice for fixed-wing medevac service in Alberta. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

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Apr 11 – 13 Fri 6 – 10 pm Sat + Sun 8 – 5 pm
Fee: \$600

Finish Your Basement – Electrical [HOME120]

Practice on installation of wiring, electrical outlets and lighting - including three-way switches.

Apr 12 + 13 Sat + Sun 8:30 – 4:30 pm
Fee: \$395

Table Saw [CABM108]

Practice basic operations of standard table saw features, standard cutting techniques, advanced techniques, jigs and fixtures.

Apr 12 Sat 9 – 3:30 pm
Fee: \$190

Finish Your Basement – Plumbing [HOME130]

Covers relevant codes and practice of sink, faucets and toilet installation.

Apr 26 + 27 Sat + Sun 8:30 – 3:30 pm
Fee: \$300

Solar Hot Water Installation [PLMR170]

Theory of solar hot water collection and distribution is covered but the majority of time is spent on installation of hot water tanks and equipment for cottages or homes.

Apr 26 – May 4 Sat + Sun 9 – 4 pm
Fee: \$500

Hand Tools for Woodworking [CABM110]

Course covers tuning, sharpening and use of hand tools then build several jigs to construct a small project.

May 3 – 10 Sat 9 – 3:30 pm
Fee: \$270

Wood Frame Construction [BILD112]

Practice with layout of floor and wall framing, window and door openings, install soffit and fascia, rafters, shingling and siding.

May 6 – June 26 Tue + Thu 6:30 – 9:30 pm + Sat 8 – 12 pm
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Mental health. Hoarders, experts share stories

Shiona Crayston assumed she had a lot of clutter until three years ago when she met with a city support group and realized she suffered from hoarding disorder.

The 53-year-old Edmonton woman shared her story Wednesday at a special conference hosted by the Canadian Mental Health Association for those working with people suffering from the disorder.

"I thought I had clutter," said Crayston, who tended to collect paper, books and clothing. "Those are all things I struggle to pare down on and not collect and keep."

Hoarding intervention coordinator Jesse Edsell-Vetter called the disorder a complex issue that can cause a lot of health and safety issues.

"The solution doesn't have to be just cleaning it out," said Edsell-Vetter. "Through community partnership, we don't have to remove everything and traumatize the individuals we



Jesse Edsell-Vetter and Christiana Bratiotis, two of the guest speakers
Wednesday. LEAH GERMAIN/METRO

are working with. There is a range of different options."

Dr. Christiana Bratiotis, a subject expert, said Wednesday's conference is a way to encourage the groups who interact with hoarding disorder to build a stronger community.

"If all those groups are coming together, the person with the hoarding problem has a much better chance at recovery," Bratiotis said.

LEAH GERMAIN/METRO

Alta. Man convicted in Mountie deaths granted unescorted absences

A man convicted of manslaughter for his role in the shooting deaths of four Alberta RCMP officers near Mayerthorpe has been granted unescorted, temporary absences from prison.

The National Parole Board ruled Wednesday that Shawn Hennessey will be allowed out for up to 72 hours at a time over the next six months.

Board spokesman Gary Sears said Hennessey, 34, will have to follow certain restrictions.

"There are three conditions: not to consume or pos-

sess alcohol, not to consume, purchase or possess drugs and to avoid negative associates, those involved in criminal activity," Sears said.

Hennessey was sentenced to 15 years in prison, but his jail time was reduced to a little more than 10 years because he pleaded guilty and spent time in pretrial custody.

He and his brother-in-law gave gunman James Roszko a rifle and ride to Roszko's farm where he ambushed and killed the RCMP officers in 2005.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The thieves pried open mailboxes, which allowed them to access hundreds of pieces of mail at once. CONTRIBUTED

Police crack ring of mail thieves

Identity theft.

Police say apartment buildings targeted



RYAN
TUMILTY

ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

Edmonton police have laid charges in what they believe was a sophisticated mail and identity theft operation.

Since January, there have been 24 incidents in 19 different apartment buildings. In each case, thieves gained

access to the building, pried open panel mailboxes and stole mail.

Police say some individuals were victims of the operation more than once and that hundreds of people have become victims.

EPS officers raided two north Edmonton addresses on March 14 and found printers, forged documents and other tools for identity theft.

They arrested 14 people and charged one person with 132 offences.

"On the surface this might look like mischief to mail-

boxes, but it's an identity theft operation," says Const. Alberto Asencio.

He said apartment residents could take a few simple steps to reduce the risk of becoming a victim.

"Any tenants should check their mailboxes daily," he said. "The longer it's there the more likely it is to be stolen if someone was targeting it."

He also encouraged people not to let strangers into their building.

Canada Post is gradually moving all Canadians to de-

livery at community mailboxes, but they said incidents like this one aren't commonplace at the existing community boxes.

"It's a small fraction of one percent of our boxes," said spokesperson Eugene Knapik.

Knapik said most of those thefts have occurred in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia and the corporation is working with police there. He said they're also looking at tougher boxes in some areas.

"We're trying to beef up the security as well as we possibly can," he said.

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The director of Copenhagen Zoo, Steffen Straede, stands in front of two lionesses. POLFOTO, JENS DRESLING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Danish zoo defends killing four of its lions

Copenhagen Zoo. This cull has put the zoo on the defensive again, a month after it killed a healthy giraffe

A Danish zoo on Wednesday defended its decision to kill two aging lions and two cubs, citing the risk of inbreeding and the arrival of a new male. This week's cull has put the Copenhagen Zoo on the defensive again, a month after it infuriated animal rights activists by killing a healthy

giraffe, dissecting it in public and feeding it to the lions.

In a statement, the zoo said it had to put down the lions to make room for the new, three-year-old male, saying it wouldn't have been accepted by the pride if the older male, 16, were still around.

“Furthermore we couldn't risk that the male lion mated with the old female as she was too old to be mated with again due to the fact that she would have difficulties with birth and parental care of another litter,” the zoo said.

The zoo said the cubs

Zoo as tough as nature

Zoo officials hope the new male and two females born in 2012 will form the nucleus of a new pride.

- They said the culling “may seem harsh, but in nature is necessary to ensure a strong pride of lions.”

were put down because they couldn't fend for themselves and the male would likely kill them. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Malaysian Remote Sensing Agency graphic shows objects in the south Indian Ocean. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

122 objects spotted in ocean offer fresh lead

A French satellite scanning the Indian Ocean for remnants of a missing jetliner found a possible plane debris field containing 122 objects, a top Malaysian official said Wednesday, calling it “the most credible lead that we have.”

Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said the objects were more than 2,500 kilometres southwest of Australia, in the area where a desperate, multinational hunt has been going on since other satellites detected possible jet

Clouds obscured the latest satellite images, but dozens of objects could be seen in the gaps, ranging in length from one metre to 23 metres. Hishammuddin said some of them “appeared to be bright, possibly indicating solid material.”

The images were taken Sunday. Various floating ob-

jects have been spotted by planes and satellites over the last week, including on Wednesday, when the Australian Maritime Safety Authority said three more objects were seen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Search now size of Alaska

Malaysia announced Monday that a mathematical analysis of the final known satellite signals from the plane showed that it crashed in the sea, killing everyone on board.

- The new data greatly reduced the search zone, but it remains huge — an area estimated at 1.6 million square kilometres, about the size of Alaska.

- Recovering any part of the plane will be tough because of the sheer depth of the ocean — much of it between about 3,000-4,500 metres (10,000-15,000 feet) deep in the search area.

Turkey

Court orders Twitter restored

A Turkish court ordered the telecommunications authority to restore access to Twitter on Wednesday, issuing an injunction five days after the government blocked access to the social network.

The ban came shortly after Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan threatened to “rip out the roots” of Twitter, which has been a conduit for links to recordings suggesting government corruption.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Art mimics life

Movie similar to disaster on hold

A disaster movie about a jet that crashes into the ocean on its way to Beijing has been put on hold because of its similarities to the missing Malaysian plane.

Arclight Films, the company behind Deep Water, said Wednesday that pre-production has been halted for the time being.

“We’re delaying it out of respect for what’s going on,” managing director Gary Hamilton said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Secret Service

Three of Obama’s bodyguards called home

The chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee said Wednesday he’s troubled by an incident involving a drunken Secret Service agent in connection with President Barack Obama’s overseas trip to the Netherlands.

On Sunday, the agency called three agents home from the Netherlands just before Obama’s arrival for talks with foreign leaders.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Conservative MP Steven Fletcher speaks with the media as he leaves caucus on Parliament Hill on Wednesday.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tory MP preps euthanasia bill

Former cabinet minister. Quadriplegic Steven Fletcher to table assisted-suicide proposal against government policy

A former Conservative cabinet minister who was left paralyzed from the neck down by a 1996 car crash plans to introduce two private member's bills that would allow assisted suicide in some cases.

Steven Fletcher, a Manitoba MP who was dropped from the federal cabinet last summer, is going against government policy with his legislation.

One of Fletcher's two bills would, if passed, allow doctors to help people end their lives under certain restricted cir-

Quoted

"I'm not in any hurry to reopen that issue."

Justice Minister Peter MacKay, expressing his disinterest in debating assisted suicide in the House of Commons.

cumstances. The second would set up a commission to monitor the system.

"There will be a set of statutory requirements that must be met before the act of physician-assisted death can happen," Fletcher said Wednesday before a Conservative caucus meeting.

He wouldn't go into specific details, saying that will have to wait until after the bills are introduced in the House of Commons on Thursday.

The legislation is likely to face a tough time in the Commons, which last looked at the issue in 2010 and voted against

it by a wide margin.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay said he has no interest in starting that debate again.

The Supreme Court of Canada, which in 1993 narrowly ruled against Sue Rodriguez in her much-debated bid for assisted suicide, has agreed to hear another British Columbia right-to-die case this spring. Rodriguez, who had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease, took her own life in 1994 with the help of an anonymous doctor.

"When I reflect back on the Sue Rodriguez case, I really felt that she should have been able to legally receive what was ultimately done," Fletcher said.

He also said polls suggest Canadians in general support the idea. A Quebec bill on assisted suicide died three weeks ago when the provincial election was called. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Police, mental health leaders discuss how to prevent tragedies

It's a national conversation that's finally taking place.

Amid growing concern over how police deal with some of society's most vulnerable, law enforcement officials, those who live with mental illness and those who support them have gathered to discuss how to avert tragedies during crises.

That dialogue, deemed the first of its kind, comes at a time when statistics suggest one in

five Canadians experience a mental health illness in any given year.

"It's a major step forward and a very bold step forward," said Louise Bradley, CEO of the Mental Health Commission of Canada, host of the conference in Toronto with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

One of the key issues police and mental health advocates have to grapple with is

the lack of national standards: there isn't a countrywide training curriculum for officers on how to deal with the mentally ill, nor is there comprehensive data collected on the issue.

Vancouver police Chief Jim Chu, who's also president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, says "police are increasingly becoming the mental health response agency of first resort." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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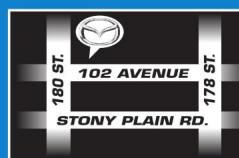
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Lucky in London. Ontario man wins second jackpot, this time it's a cool million

Meet Robert McPhail: London, Ont.'s luckiest man, who claimed the second big lottery prize of his life — \$1 million in the March 19 Lotto 6-49 draw.

His first round of luck came in 1992 when he was part of a group of seven that cashed in on \$571,157.

McPhail was picking up a newspaper and some chocolates for his wife at a Shoppers Drug Mart when "something told me to buy a ticket," he said. McPhail ended up buying

two tickets for the draw.

"I found out about my win when checking my numbers against those posted in the newspaper," he said. "I was in disbelief. I always thought I would win again — I just didn't know when. My family members keep rubbing me for good luck."

McPhail plans to take a trip to the U.K. with his wife and may take his grandchildren on a fishing trip.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.



Robert McPhail of London, Ont., won \$1 million in March 19's Lotto 6-49 draw. He'd won before as part of a group that cashed in on \$571,157 in 1992. CONTRIBUTED

Grain

Legislation aims to clear backlog

The federal government has tabled legislation aimed at increasing the movement of grain that has been left sitting in bins across the Prairies

due to a transportation bottleneck.

The legislation proposes the Canadian Grain Commission regulate how much a grain company will pay to a farmer if the company doesn't meet delivery dates set out in a contract.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto. Scandal-plagued mayor accused of having made the city 'an international embarrassment' during live televised debate

Toronto's scandal-plagued mayor held his own against several concerted attacks during Wednesday's first televised mayoral debate as he seeks to stay in office come October.

Rob Ford, who frequently rolled his eyes, stared at the ceiling and flashed grins at the audience, defended his fiscal record as he shot back at the candidates vying to replace him.

"Four years ago, I was elected to stop the gravy train," Ford said, thumping a familiar drum. "I have stopped the gravy train."

Former NDP MP Olivia Chow was quick to shoot him down: "It's time for you to go because your gravy train has turned into a train wreck," Chow said. "You need to pack up that nonsense you're talking about."

Up for debate

"We've had it with the scandals and lack of truth. It's time to go because you're embarrassing our city."

Olivia Chow to Rob Ford

Chow to Ford: 'It's time to take down the circus tent'



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, right, laughs next to David Soknacki as they take part in a mayoral debate in Toronto Wednesday.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chow was the first candidate to allude directly to, but not mention, Ford's well-known problems — including smoking crack and spouting obscenities on live TV — that have made him talk-show

fodder and made him a recognizable name around the world.

Ford was frequently content to let the others debate among themselves, but didn't hesitate to jump in.

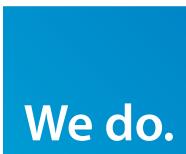
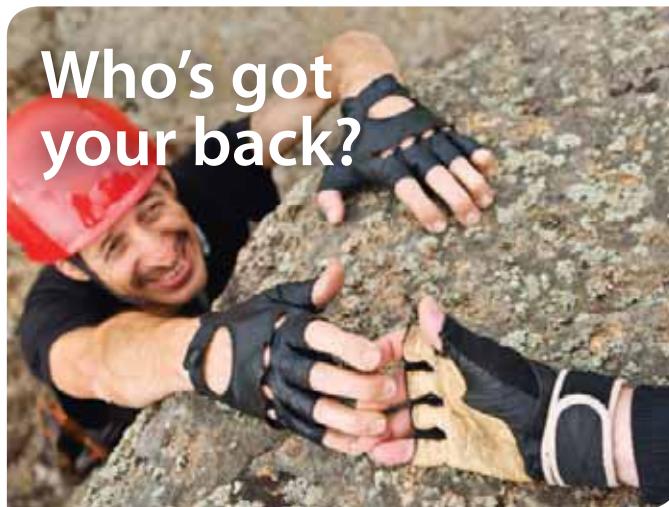
Former provincial PC party leader John Tory said Ford had "run out of gas" given his inability to get anything through a council that has stripped him of most of his powers. He accused the mayor of letting taxpayers

down and ruining the city's reputation.

Mostly, though, it was Chow and Ford who went at each other during the two-hour debate. "It's time to take down the circus tent at city hall," Chow said, saying the mayor had made Toronto "an international embarrassment."

Voters will choose whether Ford remains in office or will be replaced Oct. 27.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Arctic talks continue despite rocky relations with Russia

Diplomacy. International politicians concerned about how country's actions in Ukraine may affect the situation up north

Canada may be upset at Russia over Ukraine, but conversations with the country continue over the Arctic.

Government officials confirm that a Russian delegation is attending a meeting in Yellowknife this week held by the Arctic Council, an eight-member group of countries that ring the North. All members are attending, even though the council includes some of Russia's harshest critics, such as Canada and the United States.

"The prime minister has

instructed Canadian officials to review all bilateral interactions with Russia," said Amanda Gordon, spokeswoman for Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq, the current head of the council.

"For the moment, however, Arctic Council work does continue as planned."

The Yellowknife meeting began Tuesday and continues until Thursday. The delegations are being led by bureaucrats, not politicians, and are all closed to the media.

It's the second time senior Arctic officials have met since Canada assumed its two-year chairmanship of the council.

In Europe this week, Harper questioned the mentality of the Russian government, which has said Canada has no right to speak out against Russia's moves against Ukraine. Some government departments have

already reduced their contact with Russia.

Speaking Tuesday in Washington, D.C., Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said her department is one of them.

"In my own portfolio we have looked at where there are points of contact, and we have stopped those points of contact," she said. "We are taking this very seriously, and it goes through the entire government."

Most of the Arctic Council's work involves the collection and sharing of scientific, environmental and social information between member countries and six aboriginal groups that have permanent observer status. The council has negotiated binding agreements that include deals on Arctic search and rescue and the prevention of oil spills.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Poland warns against Putin

Ukrainian tanks are transported from their base in Perevalnoe, outside Simferopol, Crimea, Wednesday. Poland's ambassador to Canada is warning the security and certainty of the international post-Cold War era ended with Russia's recent annexation of Crimea and that NATO should have a more defined presence in eastern Europe.

PAVEL GOLOVKIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The truth is out there

Dwarf planet found in 'celestial wasteland'

Peering into the far reaches of the solar system, astronomers have spied a frozen pink world 12 billion kilometres from the sun.

It's the second such object to be discovered in a region of space beyond Pluto long considered a celestial wasteland. Until now, the lone known resident in this part of the solar system was an oddball dwarf planet spotted in 2003 named Sedna after the mythological Inuit goddess who created the sea creatures of the Arctic.

The new object, 2012 VP113, was tracked using a new camera on a ground telescope in Chile.

Like Sedna, VP is also a dwarf planet. It's jokingly nicknamed Biden after U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden because of the object's initials. It measures about 450 kilometres across. By contrast, Earth is about 12,713 kilometres across.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Critics speak

They threw out our work, say Liberals

Despite Prime Minister Stephen Harper's claim that his First Nations education bill is "historic" and "long overdue," Carolyn Bennett remembers when the Liberal Party made a similar attempt years ago.

The aboriginal affairs critic and Toronto MP pointed to the 2005 Kelowna Accord, a broad-sweeping piece of legislation that sought to close the gap between First Nations communities and the rest of Canadian society.

It was scrapped in 2007

in a vote after the Conservatives were elected.

"The fact that the Kelowna Accord was thrown out was very upsetting," Bennett told Metro. "The Liberals are serious about this and want to carry on the work that was begun with Kelowna."

Bennett also had few kind words for how the current government formulated its First Nations education bill. She called the initial attempt, which was introduced in November and is now undergoing revision, a complete disaster.

"There needs to be an

understanding that bottom-up is the only way this will work," she said. "More paternalism and more tablets coming down from on high just serves to irritate people such that they can't even hear what you're saying."

While Bennett conceded that Harper's promise of \$1.9 billion for on-reserve education

over seven years is comparable to former Liberal Prime Minister Paul Martin's promise of \$1.7 billion over five years, she focused her criticism on how each administration arrived at the conclusion.

"The Kelowna Accord) started with hundreds of people in a room, deciding what will be the priorities and then dividing up into working groups and 18 months later coming up with a real plan with the dollars attached," she explained.

By contrast, she said, the Conservatives have imposed their views without proper consultation and have delayed the injection of funds into the system.

"We found out when the budget was tabled those monies won't fall until next year," she said. "So in some ways it was one step forward and two steps back."

However, Bennett added there is some evidence the Conservatives have been listening and eagerly awaits the release of the newly drafted document.

"This is about fixing the greatest social injustice in Canada," she said.

JACOB MORGAN/METRO IN SASKATOON



Toronto MP and Liberal critic for aboriginal affairs Carolyn Bennett CONTRIBUTED

"This is about fixing the greatest social injustice in Canada," she said.

JACOB MORGAN/METRO IN SASKATOON

Chance

Upheaval is coming for First Nations schools. The federal government is planning to invest nearly \$2 billion into the neglected system and give communities more control over their own education. Metro travelled to two on-reserve schools to document their condition, the details of the plan and why many people say the proposed changes may be their kids' last chance.

The First Nations Control of First Nations

Education Act. Metro tracks down answers to the big questions about the government's solution



JACOB MORGAN
Metro in Saskatoon

How much will it cost?

That's the main question. Prime Minister Stephen Harper has committed a total of \$1.9 billion. This includes \$1.25 billion to run the system beginning in 2016 and increasing 4.5 per cent annually, \$500 million for infrastructure over seven years beginning in 2015 as well as \$160 million for transitional costs over four years beginning in 2015.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, tells Metro the 4.5 per cent escalator is a step in the right direction.

"We've been advocating for years to break the two per cent cap," said Atleo, referring to the limit placed on education funding increases in the '90s, which doesn't adequately account for inflation and population growth.

What will curriculum look like at on-reserve schools?

One of the prime minister's catchphrases is "a comparable system." The goal is to create First Nations curriculums and high school diploma qualifications that parallel those offered in non-aboriginal schools.

In addition, the government has promised to con-

tinue consulting with indigenous communities — after its original draft proposal was met with condemnation last fall — to incorporate language and cultural programs that reflect the unique heritage of all 633 First Nations across the country.

"We said we needed resour-



Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

ces for language and culture, (and) they've identified that they put that in that

"The overriding goal of the legislation is better outcomes for First Nation students. First Nations and the Government of Canada agree that this is best achieved through First Nations control."
— Government of Canada website

\$1.9-billion budget announcement that they made," said Atleo.

How will the new act change control of First Nations education?

Until now the Indian Act

has governed First Nations education. Since the end of the residential school era, Ottawa has directly administered the system.

The new bill will create First Nations education authorities, which will function similarly to school boards in the provincial system. Authorities will govern schools on a local level and ensure they meet national and provincial standards.

Bernard Valcourt, minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, tells Metro that First Nations communities will appoint their own authorities, which can represent an area or a single school.

"I don't want to control education," said Valcourt. "I want First Nations to control education and First Nations will have options."

Will there be accountability?

The First Nations education authorities will oversee administrators and require annual reports. The regular reporting is designed to ensure teachers are certified and standards are met.

Atleo said accountability is a two-way street and both sides are responsible.

"They moved away from requiring or suggesting ministerial oversight," he said. "Now we're talking about reciprocal accountability."

Valcourt added that First Nations

CREATING FOR FIR
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to act

education systems "will have to be accountable to their community, to the parents, to the kids and not to the federal government."

Who opposes this?

1 There are numerous groups across Canada opposing the bill. One example is the Onion Lake Cree Nation in the Treaty No. 6 Territory.

Diana Steinhauer holds a PhD degree in indigenous knowledge from the Blue Quills First Nations College and works in governance at Onion Lake. Her official title is *ka-nikanapistahk*, which she says is Cree for "those who can't speak for themselves, and it refers to the ones who aren't here yet: the animals, the plants, the birds."

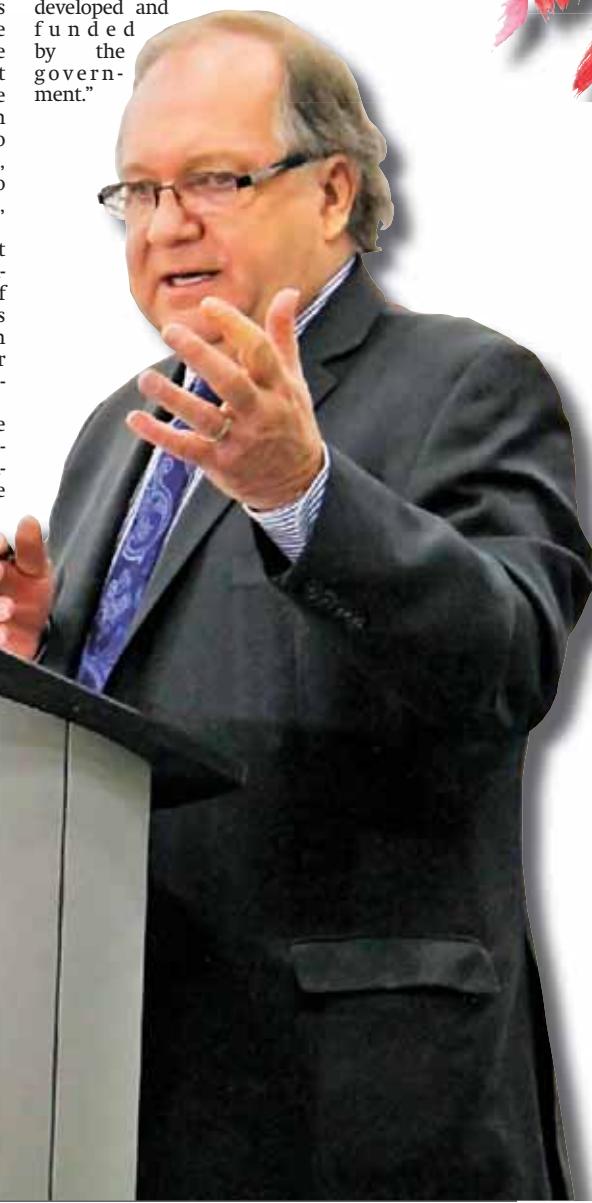
Steinhauer explained that Onion Lake rejects the education act and any form of legislation that impedes on their sovereignty.

"We have our inherent jurisdiction over education and we're not going to relinquish it," she said.

The government is not in a position to hand over control, said Steinhauer, because treaty rights holders should already have that power.

"It's not their jurisdiction to be telling us what to do," she said.

She added that the AFN doesn't speak for Onion Lake, as "it's not an inherent rights holder, it's an organization developed and funded by the government."



2 "The legislation will require that First Nation schools ... award widely recognized diplomas or certificates. These requirements do not currently exist."

— Government of Canada website



On the web



5 Dec 2005, Term Kelowna Accord

...

2006

2007

3

1 Blue dot. A sign of defiance

Find out how a little blue sticker became a symbol of protest for opponents of the act. **CHRISTI BELCOURT/TWITTER**

2 Youth. Beyond the politics

Head over to metronews.ca to see what attendees at the Assembly of First Nations Youth Summit had to say about their learning experiences.

3 Timeline. Scrapped attempt

Go online to see an interactive timeline of the quashed Kelowna Accord and hear from the national co-chair of the Liberals' Aboriginal Peoples' Commission.



Critics speak

Too much we don't know, says NDP



MORGAN MODJESKI
Metro in Saskatoon

The aboriginal affairs critic for Canada's opposition party has "major concerns" about the federal government's plan to improve First Nations education.

Announced back in February, the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act would inject more than \$1.9 billion in additional funding to address financial shortfall for on-reserve education, starting in 2015.

But critics of the bill have questions on how — and when — the act will be implemented.

"We actually haven't seen any legislation at this point, and what my concern is, is that the process of how this is going to be drafted is unclear," said Jean Crowder, aboriginal affairs critic for the New Democratic Party.

"From our perspective, you can't draft this legislation without having First Nations at the table," she said.

Although the federal government held eight face-to-face consultations, 54 informational briefings and

received 631 responses to an online survey while drafting the original First Nations Education Act, it was widely rejected.

And with the federal government's recent announcement having little information on how First Nations will be consulted, Crowder said it's hard to know what its

"I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together."

but judging by the emails and letters I'm getting in my office, nobody's being fooled," she said.

"People recognize the money doesn't flow until after a federal election, and given past history, just because people say one thing before an election doesn't mean they're going to do the same thing after."

"I think the timing is very suspicious," she said.

But Bernard Valcourt, federal minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, says the act has nothing to do with the upcoming election.

"I dismiss these charges ... (of) pure political partisanship on (the) part of the people who would rather not have us in government."

"A lot of work has been done. This has been evaluated and looked at by First Nations all across Canada. We've received their views, we've got the AFN resolution, we've got the open letter of the national chief and we have identified a way forward."



Jean Crowder, NDP critic for aboriginal affairs CONTRIBUTED

outcome will be.

"I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together, whether it's going to have regional representation from across the country," she said.

While Crowder feels the government's acknowledgement of the funding gap is a step in the right direction,

BlackBerry beckons business with security software in BYOD era

Bring your own device.

As more staffers use personal phones to conduct business, the Waterloo tech firm aims to provide peace of mind

BlackBerry Ltd. has received certification for U.S. government employees to use its Secure Work Space enterprise software on iPhones and devices that use the Android operating system.

The technology is part of products that became available through the rollout of its BlackBerry 10 operating system.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company says the software helps government and business employees use mobile devices of their choice with lower security risks.

Lawsuit launched

In other developments yesterday, chief executive John Chen says he's fighting against future product leaks by filing a lawsuit that he hopes will set an example.

- Chen alleges that an unnamed person stole confidential details about a future BlackBerry product and leaked them to the public.

The certification will give security-conscious organizations, like U.S. and Canadian government agencies, the ability to use software that separates sensitive corporate data from personal content on a single mobile device.

More technology companies have been chasing the lucrative

business market as BlackBerry's popularity waned. Both Google and Apple developed their own enterprise software designed to attract government agencies and corporations.

BlackBerry has relied on its strong reputation for security to help rollout a series of new security options linked to BlackBerry 10.

This week, the company announced that it's about to launch an update to its popular BBM chat service that it hopes will generate extra revenue.

Part of the plan includes a more secure level of BBM for smartphones on corporate accounts that companies would pay extra to use.

BlackBerry is also working on launching a new BBM Shop that deals in virtual goods and would work alongside companies to generate money through sponsorship deals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Saga of the sweet, then sour stock debut

Characters of the King Digital Entertainment game Candy Crush Saga walk the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange, before the company's IPO, Wednesday. The festive move didn't last. King's stock priced at \$22.50 US on Tuesday, valuing the company at \$7.1 billion, but it opened on Wednesday at \$20.50, down almost nine per cent. Its shares lost more ground by the day's close, falling more than 15 per cent. King Digital Entertainment PLC had \$1.88 billion in revenue last year. That's more than 10 times its 2012 revenue of \$164.4 million. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Court battle over loan drags on for 16 years

It started with an unwanted laptop, and it ended in Britain's Supreme Court.

A Scottish man on Wednesday won a 16-year court battle sparked by a wrangle over a loan he'd taken out to buy a computer.

Oil worker Richard Durkin bought a laptop from a store in the Scottish city of Aberdeen in 1998, using a credit agreement with lender HFC Bank for about 1,500 pounds. He returned the computer the next day because it lacked an internal modem, and tried to cancel the credit deal.

The bank said he couldn't, and after he refused to pay, it declared

he had defaulted. Durkin said the bad credit rating meant he was unable to buy a house.

Durkin took legal action, and in 2008 — a decade after the purchase — a court awarded him more than 100,000 pounds. That decision was overturned by appeal's judges, and the case eventually wound its way to the Supreme Court.

The saga ended Wednesday when five Supreme Court justices ruled that Durkin had "validly rescinded the credit agreement" and awarded him 8,000 pounds in damages, a fraction of his initial award.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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I SURRENDER, MOTHER NATURE

OK, winter, I give up.

Forget discontent. This is the winter of our disbelief.

Mother Nature went from her usual fickle and frigid self to full-on cruel and cold-hearted. Bing Crosby's White Christmas gave way long ago to Game of Thrones' Winter Without End. Jack Frost bit my nose off and spat it in my face.

We were once in a snow globe, but now we're trapped Under the Dome, scratching at the glass and screaming for anyone to let us out.

As I write this, the Maritimes is being hit with the sort of storm that usually gives rise to over-the-top, two-word blends like polar vortex, frostquake or snowpocalypse. By the time you read this, the blizzard may well be known as a Sleet Scream, The Parthenon Freeze or Icetrocry 2014.

Meanwhile, in Toronto, it's been cold for so long that my friends and I are deeply excited that the forecast for the



HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

week includes such mercies as 10 degrees and rainy, which will give us at least one day to dream that we're Vancouverites adrift in a warmish sea of cappuccinos and cannabis.

(This column is least relevant for Vancouver residents, but just replace the word "snow" with "rain," the word "cold" with "drab" and the words "We're all in this together" with "Get bent.")

The predicted improvement from insufferable weather to unpleasant weather had given me hope that things were improving, but then I saw a new headline on Wednesday: "WINTER-LIKE WEATHER TO CONTINUE UNTIL AT LEAST MID-APRIL."

It's funny how your eyes play tricks on you, because when I first glanced at the headline I read it as "LEAP FROM THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY." I thought about it, but figured the snow would probably break my fall anyway.

Which leads me back to my original thought: I give up. I

have no more rage, no more despair to give. The tears only freeze on my face. The seven-day forecast has pushed me through the seven stages of grief and it's time to accept my frosty fate.

I accept that it's going to be winter forever. And I for one welcome our new, flakey overlords.

Why, winter year-round will be grand.

Patio weather will be any time we want, there'll be no annoying change of car tires, no suffering through another bus-stop simpleton asking, "Hot enough for ya?"

Hockey in June will make perfect sense, the cars-versus-bikes feud will end, and a balaclava will provide all the SPF protection you need.

No smog, no humidity, no insects. No summer love means no summer heartbreaks.

Endless winter will mean being comfortably numb, with smiles frozen on our faces.

I give up, winter. You win. I am yours, and you're all right. A naysayer might claim I have Stockholm syndrome, but I checked. It's 14 and sunny there.

Uncle, Mother Nature. Uncle.

ZOOM

10,000-calorie, beastly burger

Substantial sandwich inspired by a cartoon

The 10,000-calorie whopper, dubbed the Ulti-Meatum, was cooked up by restaurant owners Corinne and John Clarkson after seeing the meat feast on Cartoon Network's The Regular Show.

The monster meal includes five pounds (2.2 kilograms) of meat and a cheeseburger within a burger just like in the children's animation. The owners of the Mister Eaters fish and chips restaurant in Preston, England, are offering up a man-versus-food challenge where daring punters can eat for free if they can finish the burger in one sitting. METRO

Q & A with John Clarkson, one of the creators

Special plate needed to hold it

Was this as much a personal challenge as anything else?

Yeah, I enjoy it and it's a bit of fun. I'm a butcher by trade and I'm familiar with meat and how it sticks together, so I thought I'll have a go. We've done the world's biggest deep-fried Ferrero Rocher at 11 pounds (five kilograms) in weight and that went global, so I thought I could do the same with this. It gets people talking; the shop's been overwhelmed.

Did you have any problems building the burger?

We had three or four flops. I had to design a plate with pins that are the same height as the burger, so that it doesn't topple over. The thing with my burger is that it's not messy when you cut it open — you get a really nice cross-section as you can see in the picture.



TWITTER:@TORGANDELLIOTT

Clickbait



ANDREW FIFIELD

andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

The Oculus Rift VR helmet's splashy debut on the tech conference circuit helped make it one of the most successful Kickstarters of all time, eventually leading to Facebook's \$2B purchase of Oculus on Tuesday. So it looks like VR is about ready to become a thing, and these movies available on Netflix will provide a nice glimpse of the nightmarish future it will usher in.



The Oculus Rift virtual reality headset THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

eXistenz:
Jennifer Jason Leigh and Jude Law star as a video game designer and her protégé who flit between virtual worlds while avoiding assassins determined to hunt them down in this sci-fi brain bender from David Cronenberg. It's truly weird and wonderful.

across a high-profile murder among his collection of virtual reality clips, wrapping him up in a manhunt across an L.A. that has disintegrated into a war zone as the calendar heads toward the year 2000.

Evolver:
Here is where we've decidedly into B-movie territory when an elite gamer gets a chance to play a live version of his favourite video game. Naturally, this leads to big, violent problems when he finds himself battling a ruthlessly efficient killer robot.

Twitter



@metropicks asked: A US\$297 course called conscious uncoupling promises a happy breakup. Would you pay?

@Canucklehead_ca: Why pay to have the cow sent back to pasture when you can simply give up milk for free?

@prussell_pc: I have paid.. far more. This program takes two to un-tango, and so wouldn't have worked for me.

@AnyaZub: That's like four bottles of whiskey, cover charge and two rounds at the bar for me and two of my best friends.

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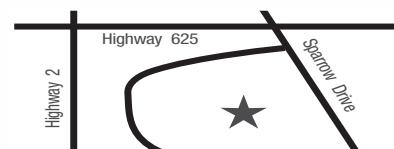
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SCENE 2

New play proves you're never too old to fall in love

The Invention of Romance. Playwright Conn Massing's latest offering was inspired by her mother



JENNIFER LARAWAY
edmonton@metronews.ca

Sometimes fact really is better than fiction. Acclaimed playwright Conn Massing didn't have to look far for inspiration on her latest production, *The Invention of Romance*.

"When my mother was 18, she was in a play that toured during World War II. She was the romantic lead and briefly dated her counterpart. Eventually, they married other people. Cut 60 years later, their spouses have passed. Alec found my mother again and they began dating. At the tender age of 80 and 83, they fell in love," said Massing.

When the couple decided to make it official and started preparing for the ceremony, Manning's mother gave her a copy of the play that originally brought the actors together.

"The cover was missing, edges of pages were ripped off, and it's yellow. I thumbed through it and realized the end of the play was missing. That's when I had a convergence of all the elements; that's when I got goosebumps and knew I was onto something," said Massing.

From there, she mused over



Based on a true story, *The Invention of Romance* premieres tomorrow night at La Cité Francophone. COURTESY WORKSHOP WEST THEATRE.

the concept. "I find in the writing and creative process that if you think you have an idea for a play, you'll have other ideas that feed into it. It almost becomes magnetized and attracts angles and information."

After several drafts, Massing paired up with Workshop West Theatre and Tracy Carroll, whose initial role as dramaturg was to be a neutral third party between Massing

and the director. Ultimately, Carroll slipped into the director's chair to fulfill Massing's vision, at which point Massing says her role was to "stay away so the actors and crew have the opportunity to put their magic into it."

The Invention of Romance debuts at La Cité Francophone (8627 – 91 St.).

True to form, it follows a daughter, Kate, who discovers

a play and becomes obsessed with finding the ending. Kate is a museum curator and doing an exhibit on the history of romance.

Meanwhile, her own love life has fallen apart, and her 80-year-old mother is having more romantic success than she is. With love swirling around her, Kate finds herself having to make some decisions about matters of the heart.

Details

The Invention of Romance runs March 28 - April 13.

Admission ranges from \$11 - \$28 depending on date/time.

Buy tickets online at workshopwest.org or by calling 780-477-5955.

visit metronews.ca

Crowe takes on role of biblical proportions

Noah. Actor's latest flick renews the tradition of mass audience Bible epics — with a distinctly darker feel

At the beginning of their work together on Noah, director Darren Aronofsky made Russell Crowe a promise: "I'll never shoot you on a houseboat in a robe and sandals with two giraffes popping up behind you."

Decades after Cecil B. DeMille's The Ten Commandments and Ben-Hur, Aronofsky has renewed the tradition of the studio-made, mass audience Bible epic, albeit as a distinctly darker parable about sin, justice and mercy. While much of his Noah is true to Scripture, it's nothing like the picture-book version many encounter as children.

"The first time I read it, I got scared," the director says. "I thought, 'What if I'm not good enough to get on the boat?'"

It's an altogether unlikely project: a \$130-million Bible-based studio film made by a widely respected filmmaker (Black Swan, Requiem for a Dream) few would have pegged as a modern-day DeMille. In the lead-up to its March 28th release, Noah has been flooded by controversy, with some religious conservatives claiming it isn't literal enough to the Old Testament and that Noah has been inaccurately made, as Aronofsky has called him, "the first environmentalist."

Noah is a culmination of the shift brought on by Mel Gibson's independently produced The Passion of the Christ, which awakened Hollywood with its unforeseen \$612 million box office haul in 2004. In the time since, Hollywood has carefully developed closer ties to faith-based communities, (Sony and 20th Century Fox have set up faith-based studios targeting evangelicals).

Yet the debate about Noah proves that it can be tricky to satisfy both believers and non-believers, and that finding the right intersection of art, commerce and religion is a task loaded with as much risk as potential reward.

A lot is at stake, and not just for Noah and distributor Paramount Pictures. In December, Fox will release Ridley Scott's Exodus, starring Christian Bale as Moses.

On the heels of the recently released Son of God, the religious drama God's Not Dead opened last Friday and Sony is releasing the less straightforwardly biblical Heaven Is for Real ahead of Easter next month. The studio is also developing a vampire twist on Cain and Able with Will Smith. In Lionsgate's pipeline is a Mary Magdalene film, hyped as a prequel to The Passion of the Christ and co-produced by megachurch pastor Joel Osteen.

When Jonathan Boch started his company Grace Hill Media in 2000 to consult Hollywood studios on reaching the faith community, the two "really didn't know each other," he

Mass appeal

"It's wrong when you talk about the Noah story to talk about it in that type of believer-nonbeliever way because I think it's one of humanity's oldest stories. ... Everyone on the planet knows the Noah story." Director Darren Aronofsky

says. Since then, films like The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe and The Blind Side have benefited from outreach to churchgoers.

"Over the course of those 15 years, you've seen the faith community go from almost pariah status or flyover status to now being seen as an important market," says Boch, who consulted on Noah. "In my mind, what we're seeing is another renaissance where the greatest artists are telling the greatest stories every told."

Though Hollywood largely swore off the Bible epic when

films like 1965's The Greatest Story Ever Told flopped, the revival dovetails recent trends. Figures like Noah are globally recognizable, and thus easier to market. They come with no licensing fee, and, often, plenty opportunity for flashy special effects. Noah, which is being released in converted 3D overseas, is perhaps the oldest apocalypse story.

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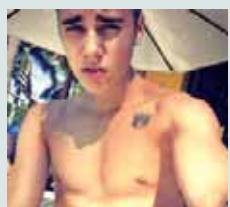
Director Darren Aronofsky, left, and actor Russell Crowe on the set of Noah.

NIKO TAVERNISE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

10 of the weirdest celebrity selfies

In a world full of social media, celebs are bound to get in trouble for some of the photos they post. Sometimes they're too sexy, sometimes they're too tasteless, other times ... they're just weird.

JENNIFER VALDEZ
Metro World News in New York City



10. Constipated Bieber

Justin Bieber snaps this selfie while lounging by the pool. The shirtless Bieber shows off some of his tattoos and a discomfited look on his face.

TWITTER @JUSTINBIEBER



9. High in the sky

Nicholas Cage has his photo taken with a passenger on a plane and while he's looking at the camera, his eyes are half shut. Not sure if the altitude is too high or his spirits are just low.

REDDIT.COM



8. The Hanx

Who knows what Tom Hanks is cooking up in his kitchen? The infamous actor snapped this selfie rocking a USS hat, sunglasses, and a bare chest. No shirt. No problem.

WHOSAY.COM



7. Franco face pads

James Franco's beauty secret is out after the actor posted this Instagram selfie before bedtime. We're not sure what the face pads are for but we're sure it helps the actor keep that gorgeous Franco face.

INSTAGRAM @JAMESFRANCO



1. Sexy Selena

After Selena posted this sexy snapshot on Instagram, reports claimed it was taken by Justin Bieber. One thing's for sure, she seems to be having some trouble with the curtains.

INSTAGRAM @SELENAGOMEZ

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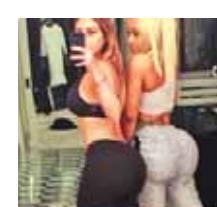
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4. Bath buddies

Conan O'Brien and Ricky Gervais get a little scrub-a-dub-dub in the tub time. Ricky posted this bubbly selfie via Twitter appearing as if the two had been busted in the bathtub.

TWITTER @RICKYGERVAIS



5. Post-workout posing

Kim Kardashian and Blac Chyna pose for their post-workout selfie at the gym. We're not sure if the weight is actually coming off or just shifting to other places.

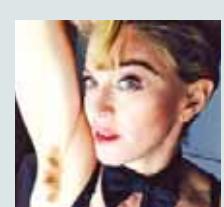
INSTAGRAM @KIMKARDASHIAN



3. Miley's tasty Moonman

Miley Cyrus just can't seem to keep her tongue in her mouth as she snaps a selfie, nearly licking a Video Music Award. Most would say she's disrespecting the Moonman, similar to how she disrespected the foam finger.

INSTAGRAM @MILEYCYRUS



2. Long hair, don't care

Madonna posted this Instagram photo three days ago titled "Long hair; Don't care." While Madonna may not care about her new look, some fans were pretty creeped out by the underhair selfie.

INSTAGRAM @MADONNA



Selena Gomez ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Selena, stop hitting repeat-peat-peat on that relationship: Parents

Selena Gomez's parents are reportedly gearing up for another intervention for the former Disney star, hoping a return trip to rehab and distance from on-again, off-again boyfriend Justin Bieber will get her back on the straight and narrow, according to *Life & Style Weekly*. Their last attempts to convince Gomez to seek help for anxiety and alleged substance abuse issues went well, with Gomez voluntarily checking into the Meadows treatment facility in Arizona.

— but she checked herself out two weeks later to rush to Bieber's side in the wake of his legal troubles. And she's been spotted with the troubled Canadian pop star regularly since then, most recently this past weekend in L.A. when she stopped by the Sunset Towers Hotel for a quick visit with Bieber. Sources tell the magazine that Gomez's parents want her to ditch Bieber for good and head back to Meadows to complete her six-week program.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

That's so tweet: Martin and Paltrow make peace with a painting



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

What should a sensitive GOOP-ified husband do to comfort his soon-to-be-ex-beloved in their time of conscious uncoupling? Put a bird on it, of course.

Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow are clearly making an effort to ensure that even their divorce is expensive and classy. Apparently Coldplay front man Martin even bought Paltrow a parting gift — an etching of a bird by Polish



artist Mila Fürstová, created as cover art for a Coldplay album, a source told the *Daily Mail*.

"The fighting is over now, there's no bitterness. They're actually going to have some fun," the source said.

There's the picture above. It's pretty cool and the sort of thing that Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow would have in their living room.

It seems unfair that even their divorce is cooler than me. Or maybe not: Mila Fürstová's staff denies that Chris Martin bought one of her works "as a gift or for any other reason."



Twitter



@Pink

I'm hearing I've been hacked... I hope "I" didn't say something out of line. Can I always say I've been hacked now? When I do that?



@samantharonson

Just found a piece of cheese in my sleeve- in case you were wondering how this not smoking thing is going.



@solangeknowles

This damn taxi driver... This tweet sponsored by "Shade"



Judd Apatow and Lena Dunham

Apatow admits Girls could have been a lot more graphic

While Lena Dunham's hit HBO series *Girls* has often been criticized for how far it goes as far as sexual content, producer Judd Apatow reveals that apparently they've wanted to go even farther. "There have been things on *Girls* where HBO has said to us, 'If we put this on TV, we literally could

lose our license to broadcast,'" Apatow told a group of college students at an event in Los Angeles, according to the *New York Post*. "Let's just say it's something you see in adult film — elements of sexual intercourse. The high points of sexual intercourse." Maybe they can save that for the DVD.



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Fashion, at its purest, is about telling stories. And the best storytellers are ones with tales to tell themselves. Here, we look at five individuals making waves in the Canadian fashion industry while weaving their own experiences into the mix.

SIGRID FORBERG

life@metronews.ca

Nana Osei

Designer, Bôhten Eyeglasses Inc.

It was on a trip to Ghana in 2009 that Nana Osei saw an opportunity to combine his passions for social responsibility and fashion. While still in university in Ottawa, he created Bôhten Eyeglasses Inc. The lightweight eyewear, made of reclaimed wood from West Africa and handcrafted in zero-waste facilities in Canada, have been drawing national attention. He's even appeared on the Dragon's Den. In the future, Osei hopes to bring the manufacturing to Africa as well. "People say there's nothing you can do about some things, but I say it always just starts small," says Osei.



Lolitta Dandoy

Blogger, Fashion is Everywhere

With a mix of French and English posts on Fashion is Everywhere, Dandoy is the quintessential Montrealer. As a fashion journalist, she'd always wanted to start her own publication. Faced with a cancer diagnosis several years ago, while convalescing at home, she decided to go for it. Surrounded by so much creativity in Montreal, she tries to capture an awareness in her blog that the fashion community is in fact a community and has a greater meaning beyond superficial consumerism. "When somebody doesn't feel right in their skin, a lot of that can have to do with their appearance," says Dandoy. "It can change things you don't expect."



5 who stitched their story into a style career

Julia Che

President, Lotus Leaf Communications

After studying fashion communications at Ryerson University, Che was working in public relations in Toronto when she noticed a friend, who is a talented jewelry designer, needed help promoting her product. Thus, Lotus Leaf Communications was born. They now represent big-name clients like 7 For All Mankind, Dr. Martens and Manitobah Mukluks. And while they've grown exponentially from that first client, at the end of the day, Che has used the company's success to give back to the community. "Agents of Change is a branch of Lotus Leaf," says Che. "Through it, we can use our expertise to increase awareness about social issues."



Meredith Wright

Filmmaker, Agency

After modelling for several years around the world, and being turned off by the way models were treated everywhere she went, Wright wanted to expose some of the darker sides of the industry. The end result was Agency, a documentary about young girls working for a modelling agency in Japan. Shot through Wright's own perspective, living in an apartment with fellow models in Osaka, Japan, the film aims to get people asking questions about the industry they normally wouldn't. "If I told someone that underage girls were working with no representation, they would be upset," says Wright. "So why is it OK when it's for fashion?"



Jigme Nehring

Founder, Mine & Yours

After living in Los Angeles, where the buy-sell-trade concept is common, Jigme Nehring decided to bring the model to Vancouver. Her resale shop, Mine & Yours is a place where women can purchase, sell or trade their gently used clothing. Nehring emphasizes the business's aspect of giving women the chance to recycle and find good homes for items that might otherwise collect dust in the back of their closets. The trouble with the fashion industry, Nehring explains, is the amount of waste it produces, which the shop aims to help negate as much as possible. "Mine & Yours helps reduce waste by extending the life of great pieces that are still in style and encouraging people to buy used clothing over new," says Nehring.



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The Kardashians are kidding around

Baby girls rejoice.

Reality stars steer their business sense towards fashion's littlest ladies

It's no secret the Kardashian family loves fashion. They have a women's clothing line called Kardashian Kollection at Sears, Dash boutiques in Los Angeles, Miami and New York, and have now launched a clothing line at Babies R Us stores called Kardashian Kids.

If you have a baby boy, though, you're out of luck. The line is just for baby girls up to 24 months.

"I think girls' (clothing) was easier for me to wrap my head around," said Kourtney Kardashian while promoting the venture in New York Monday. She said she's "obsessed with boys' clothes" but found "it was easier to just start with girls."

She hopes to incorporate boys' clothing into the line in the future.

"I would love to," Kardashian, 34, said, adding that she started shopping for her son Mason, now 4, when she was pregnant with him. She also has a daughter, Penelope,

who is almost 2. While Penelope is too little to have a say in what she wears, Kardashian said she "picks her battles" when it comes to dressing her son, who likes to pick out his own

clothes and "surprise everyone and then come out and show us his outfit so it's really cute." But "if there's a special occasion and I really want him to wear a suit on Christmas Eve for this or that, then he's so far been good about still wearing

what I want." Kardashian would rather shop for her kids than herself. "It's just so much more fun and there's so much out there, but I'm really picky," she said, adding that she loves to put outfits together for them.

Kardashian says she and her sisters, Kim and Khloe, each bring their own sense of style to the kids' lines, with Khloe partial to leopard print and Kourtney loving butterfly motifs and neutral colours.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



TV personality and businesswoman Kourtney Kardashian.

DAN HALLMAN / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Natasha Taylor

Age: 27

Occupation: Project manager and professional dancer

What she's wearing:

H&M tuque, J. Crew Gingham button up, my boyfriend's sweater from Jack & Jones, faux leather zipper leggings from GUESS, Top Shop wedge booties, neon Cambridge style bag from Forever 21.

Her inspiration:

I'm a bit of a tomboy at heart but I also like to incorporate feminine flare. My style is heavily influenced by British street style as well as dancers from the dance community in Toronto.

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Trends Report



Floral fashion dominated the runways from New York to Milan for this season, just in time for spring, despite the prolonged cold weather. Go online to Trends Report to see how to wear pretty petals, from haute couture gowns to casual wear.

- Online. Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetrolreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Photo: Getty Images



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It's home, petite home

Tiny house movement.

American family goes small, really small, and finds rewards are huge

MICHELLE
CASTILLO
Metro World News in London

With their large house in the perfect neighbourhood, the Morrisons thought they were living the American dream. Soon, the strain of living in a spacious abode began to weigh down on their energy levels and their conscience.

"It went from comfort to resentment," Gabriella Morrison explains. "We didn't have time to enjoy the house because we had to work so much more to pay for it."

Luckily, the Morrisons found a simple solution to their homestead woes: They joined the 'tiny house movement.' Its members share the same ideal that living in small spaces can lead to less complex lives and less waste.

After reading *The Small House Book* by Jay Shafer, the Morrisons got rid of 50 per cent of their items within six months.

Soon after, Gabriella, her husband Andrew and their daughter Terra sold their house, bought a pop-up tent trailer and moved to Baja California, Mexico.

"There's something about living in that teeny tiny pop-up trailer; we were finally able to connect with each other. It's lasted all this time. The changes that we experienced I daresay, it was really permanent," says Gabriella.

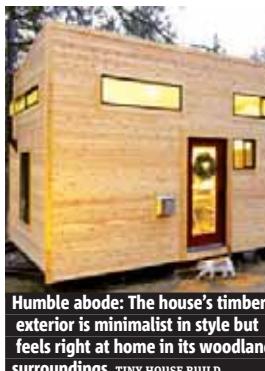
Wanting to continue their success, Gabriella and An-



Small is more: A view inside the Morrisons' trailer home shows that you can have all the regular household essentials, even in a tight space. **TINY HOUSE BUILD**

drew moved to Ashland, Ore. and built a 32 square metre trailer to live in. The structure, which took four months to build, contains two full-sized beds, a working/eating area, a kitchen, a bathroom and a lounge area for visitors.

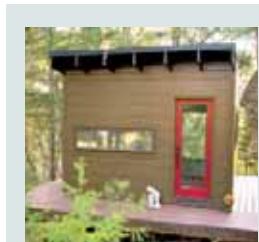
To make sure they are living green, Andrew puts a special focus on cooling and heating their place efficiently. The high ceilings and multiple windows help keep the place breezy. A gas-burning fireplace helps warm the residence and allows



Humble abode: The house's timber exterior is minimalist in style but feels right at home in its woodland surroundings. **TINY HOUSE BUILD**



Kitchen cool: It looks just like yours, maybe even better. **TINY HOUSE BUILD**



A room of one's own — for lucky tween

Admittedly, the Morrisons' living space can get a bit too cramped, especially with their two children to look after. So they built a small lookout cabin 30 metres away for their 12-year-old daughter Terra where she can study and sleep. Andrew has also started a larger treehouse project for his 17-year-old son, who's returned from college prep boarding school in Colorado. It's something he always promised his son since he was a child. "Now, we can finally do it — although the scope of the treehouse has got a lot more complicated," he adds laughing. **MWN**

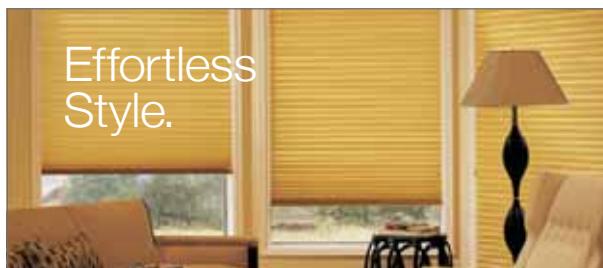
explained. "You go in and see these amazing deals. The amount of things that went to waste was shocking. It's just too much. You can't use 40 bars of soap in a lifetime."

Three and a half years after making this choice, they have purged 80 per cent of their belongings. They live by the rule that if they don't use something in the last 365 days, they toss it out.

The Morrisons do own one storage unit, but are planning to sell most of the items inside. They allow themselves one Tupperware each for heirlooms. For anything sentimental that's not really needed, they take a picture to keep it in their memories but throw the item away.

Above all, the Morrisons' initiative is about staying simple and becoming independent.

"One of our biggest passions in life is empowering the average person to build their own shelter. With the right information and a little encouragement even those with no previous building experience can handcraft their dream home," adds Andrew.



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them to turn off the device if they aren't around. Having a small house enables them to use less energy to accomplish both tasks.

The most expensive piece of "furniture" in the Morrison trailer was a \$1,400 composting toilet — a dry toilet that turns human waste into compost, or 'humanure'.

They also purchase smaller-sized items they know that they can finish instead of buying in bulk, so they don't have excessive products and create more waste. In addition, there's no extra storage space in their tiny abode.

"The warehouse shopping thing is an unbelievable myth and farce," Gabriella



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Design: From trash to good taste

With the world at risk of turning into one big landfill site, we look at ways we can rework, repurpose and reconstitute old junk. Here are our top recycled redesigns

RICHARD PECKETT
Metro World News



Old glass gets new class

Kleptomaniacs, let there be light. Yes, clutter can become classic with this light-bulb inspiration. Get your hands on one of those dust-collecting planters, pots or glass bottles from your garage or window sill, clean it up and have it cut to size (the DIY delinquents among you might need help with this).

Flush with green pride



It's the R2-D2 of the toilet world. Computers are one of the biggest producers of unwanted waste and what better way to deal with it than sculpting it into the mother(board) of all latrines. Environmental artist Steven Rodrig restructures recycled printed circuit boards (PCB) into things of sci-fi beauty.

Take a light ride: The bicycle lamp

Pedal power will put you in the frame for the future of lighting. Before you tell me to take a hike, just look at these bike lights. If you haven't got an old bicycle, take a hacksaw to the local bicycle rack (joking, we wouldn't really incite theft). After you've jacked the wheels, head over to instructables.com to assemble.

The telephone book chair

The phone directory's days are numbered, but here's a design call you might just want to make. All you need is some old wood (crate, broken chair or anything in between) and some diced and sliced directories to pad out the void. For full instructions, visit instructables.com.



INSTRUCTABLES / MICROLITHIC

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BEAVERBROOK

Keep pup and your home safe

You can teach a new dog old tricks.

Protecting your puppy from harm means your stuff stays intact, too

We bought food bowls, borrowed a crate and dusted off baby gates. But soon after we adopted our 13-week-old puppy, we discovered the house really wasn't ready.

Clove, a Labrador retriever mix, chewed wires we thought were hidden and investigated stairs we thought she'd ignore. She rummaged through deep plastic bins holding smelly shin guards and plucked snow-soaked mittens from our warm radiators. Within a week of her arrival, we had to block off power strips, reorganize our mudroom, devise a new plan for drying winter gear and gate the staircase.

"It's a lot like having an infant in the household," said Pamela Barlow, animal behaviour counsellor at the Amer-

ican Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' adoption centre in New York City.

Barlow says puppies need constant supervision and a safe environment to explore. She cautions against confining them so much that they don't get outside experiences. It is hard to go back and socialize puppies if owners miss the window of opportunity to do so.

Puppies are drawn to things they can chew on and are stimulated by things that move, said Dr. Carlo Siracusa, director of the Penn Vet Behavior Service at the University of Pennsylvania.

"Many times we think that we should protect our home from a new puppy," Siracusa said, because the puppy could potentially cause damage. But more important is the opposite: making sure that puppies are safe in their new home.

Most essential is to create a safe haven — a place where the puppy can rest and sleep when there is too much excitement or stimulation, such as when kids have friends visiting, Siracusa says. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Chew on these ideas to protect your homework

Puppy behaviour experts recommend these steps to protect your puppy at home:

- Gate off rooms where you don't want your puppy to roam.
- Let puppies earn their freedom. Give them one space or room at a time. That way, owners can actively supervise them and limit any bad behaviour.
- Create a safe confinement area — a crate or exercise pen, for instance — where the puppy can stay when you're not home. There should be enough space for a sleeping area and a potty area when puppies are very young. Also essential are a non-spill water bowl and safe, enriching toys. Toys that are not safe for this area when you are gone include tennis balls, rope toys, toys that are shorter than about double the length of the puppy's snout, and stuffed toys that have glass or plastic eyes and noses, Barlow said.
- Tape loose electrical cords. Use outlet covers.
- Store cleaning chemicals out of reach. Use baby latches on cabinet doors if needed.
- Move breakables and valuables out of the puppy's reach. Roll up new or valuable rugs until the puppy is house-trained.



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Conversation-starter table toppers



DESIGN
CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

What goes on top of the books on the coffee table? Here are a few on-trend pieces designed to charm guests



Set the scene

The coffee table is the centre of attention in any living room. Not only does it offer a place to set a martini (or a slew of TV converters) but also tells guests a bit about you. Your interests can easily be seen in the types of books you read or the style of accessories on display. Here are some ideas to add caché.



Add sparkle with a shape-shifter

Chiselled and oblique-shaped golden tea-light holder changes its shape from all views. GlucksteinHome Sydney Large Tea-light Holder, \$18, TheBay.com



Work a little black crystal magic

Keep secrets stashed in a hand-polished soapstone container topped with black resin crystals. Eduardo Garza Crystal Box, \$70, WestElm.com



Spur them on with silver cactus

A unique decorative take on the classic cacti: Plants that shine on and require no watering. Metallico Barrel Cactus, \$16-19, UrbanBarn.com



Hurricane candle creates style storm

Hurricane pillar candle, holder of natural wood and glass, makes for mid-century style. Whole-Home Contemporary Glass Candle Holder, \$40, Sears.ca



A golden opportunity to raise the bar

The perfect amount of bling to top a coffee table book. Gold Bar Paperweight, \$65, th-edesigncross.com

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ADVERTISING AWARDS

BEST PRINT ADVERTISING
Brookfield Residential
Chappelle Gardens

BEST RADIO COMMERCIAL
Maclab Enterprises
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BEST DIGITAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN/ MOBILE APPS
Beaverbrook
Don't Be Beige

BEST DIRECT MAIL/ EMAIL PROMOTION
Vicky's Homes
Inspirational Bags

BEST INDOOR/ OUTDOOR ADVERTISING
Sterling Homes (Edmonton) Ltd.
Smart Comes Standard

BEST BROCHURE PACKAGE
Carrington Communities
Allure Condominiums

BEST WEBSITE
Brookfield Residential
theorchards.ca

DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

BEST COMMUNITY ENTRANCE, LOGO AND SIGNAGE
Alldrift Land Corporation
Granville

BEST COMMUNITY LANDSCAPING & AMENITIES
Canada Lands Company
Village at Griesbach

BEST SHOW HOME PARADE
Beaverbrook
Greenbury

BEST COMMUNITY
Brookfield Residential
Lake Summerside

MULTI-FAMILY AWARDS

BEST MULTI-FAMILY APARTMENT STYLE UNDER \$250,000
StreetSide Developments
Best Multi-Family

APARTMENT ST YLE \$250,000 - \$350,000
StreetSide Developments
Durham

BEST MULTI-FAMILY APARTMENT STYLE OVER \$350,000
Carrington Communities
Lammond

MULTI-FAMILY TOWNHOUSE/DUPLEX UNDER \$275,000
Homes by Avi
Marshall

MULTI-FAMILY

TOWNHOUSE/DUPLEX \$275,000 - \$300,000
Bedrock Homes
Birk

MULTI-FAMILY TOWNHOUSE/DUPLEX \$300,000 - \$330,000
Marcson Homes Ltd.
The Oliver

BEST MULTI-FAMILY TOWNHOUSE/DUPLEX OVER \$425,000
Kimberley Homes
Essence

BEST MULTI-FAMILY TOWNHOUSE/DUPLEX OVER \$425,000
Dolce Vita Homes
Capri

BEST MULTI-FAMILY APARTMENT BUILDING
Jayman Modus
The Ion

BEST MULTI-FAMILY TOWNHOUSE/DUPLEX PROJECT
Landmark Group of Builders
Magrath Green

RENOVATION AWARDS

BEST EXTERIOR RENOVATION
Ackard Contractors Ltd.
Saskatchewan Drive Residence

BEST INTERIOR RENOVATION
A Cut Above Living
Scoggins

BEST RENOVATION UNDER \$200,000
Ackard Contractors Ltd.
Lessard Drive Residence

RENOVATOR OF THE YEAR
Home Style Construction Ltd.

SALES CENTRE AWARDS

BEST SALES AND INFORMATION CENTRE - SINGLE FAMILY
Jayman MasterBUILT,
Orchards

BEST SALES AND INFORMATION CENTRE - MULTI-FAMILY
Carrington Communities,
Ellerslie

BEST DESIGN CENTRE/ SHOW ROOM
Qualico Group, Design Q

SALESPeople OF THE YEAR AWARDS
Dina Zejnilovic

Carrington Communities

SALESPerson/TEAM OF THE YEAR - SINGLE FAMILY
Carla Weinmeyer
Pacesetter Homes

SALESPerson/TEAM OF THE YEAR - MULTI-FAMILY
Wende Campbell
Rohit Communities

GENERAL MEMBER SALESPerson OF THE YEAR
John Eaton
Progressive Home
Warranty Solutions Inc

SINGLE FAMILY AWARDS WITHOUT ATTACHED GARAGE

BEST SINGLE FAMILY UNDER \$250,000
UrbanAge Homes Inc.
Design 18

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$250,000 - \$300,000
Pacesetter Homes
Lexi B

BEST SINGLE FAMILY OVER \$300,000
Perry Signature Homes
Newport

SINGLE FAMILY AWARDS BUNGALOW/BI-LEVEL

BEST SINGLE FAMILY UNDER \$350,000
Daytona Homes
Versa IV

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$350,000 - \$450,000
Coventry Homes Inc.
Aurora Paradise

BEST SINGLE FAMILY OVER \$450,000
Perry Signature Homes Inc.
Greyhawk

SINGLE FAMILY AWARDS TWO-STORY/SPLIT LEVEL

BEST SINGLE FAMILY UNDER \$275,000
Homes by Avi
Yorkdale

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$275,000 - \$300,000
Tristate Signature Homes
Malbec

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$300,000 - \$325,000
Homes by Avi
Wellesley

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$325,000 - \$350,000
Crimson Cove Homes Inc.
O'Regan Residence

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$350,000 - \$375,000
Coventry Homes Inc.
Omega

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$375,000 - \$425,000
Marcson Homes Ltd.
The Kimberley

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$425,000 - \$500,000
UrbanAge Homes Inc.
The Copperwood

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$500,000 - \$600,000
Kimberley Homes
New Hampshire IV

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$600,000 - \$750,000
White Eagle Homes Ltd.
The Blue Diamond #1

BEST SINGLE FAMILY \$750,000 - \$1 MILLION
Perry Signature Homes Inc.
Chelsea

BEST ESTATE HOME OVER \$1 MILLION
Rimrock Elevations
The Opulence

SALES VOLUME AWARDS

PLATINUM LEVEL \$23,000,000 TO \$36,000,000
David Edmiston
Pacesetter Homes

BEST SINGLE FAMILY UNDER \$350,000
Dan Gibson
Pacesetter Homes

Carla Weinmeyer
Pacesetter Homes

Erik Eisen
Sterling Homes (Edmonton) Ltd.

Steve Bosse
ReidBuilt Homes

Darren Rose
Coventry Homes Inc.

Darryl Rose
Dolce Vita Homes

Kelly Boone
Brookfield Residential

GOLD LEVEL \$21,000,000 TO \$22,000,000

Yasemin Ozbel
Brookfield Residential

Biljana Spasojevic
ReidBuilt Homes

Narda Arballo
Sterling Homes (Edmonton) Ltd.

Dina Zejnilovic
Carrington Communities

Jill Toshach
Parkwood Master Builder

Jeremiah Cleary
Carrington Communities

SILVER LEVEL

\$18,000,000 TO \$20,000,000

Christina Reid
Muriel McKay

Bedrock Homes
Crimson Cove Homes Inc.

Sheila Hang
Brookfield Residential

Saja Hadi
Jayman MasterBUILT

Ying (Linda) Cheng
Landmark Group of Builders

Wende Black
Alldritt Homes

Kim Johnson
Rohit Communities

Betty Semeniuk
Kanvi Homes

Curtis Frew
Daytona Homes

BRONZE LEVEL

\$17,000,000

Lyndsey Dohanik
Sabal Homes

Mike Marsh
Jayman MasterBUILT

Derek Poworoznik
Jayman MasterBUILT

Brett Chartrand
Sterling Homes (Edmonton) Ltd.

Vanja Lugonja
Sterling Homes (Edmonton) Ltd.

Christopher Wigeland
Sabal Homes

GENERAL MEMBER BUILDERS' CHOICE AWARDS

SUPPLIES OR MANUFACTURES A TANGIBLE PRODUCT DIRECTLY TO THE BUILDER/RENOVATOR
All Weather Windows

SUPPLIES AND INSTALS A TANGIBLE PRODUCT DIRECTLY TO THE BUILDER/RENOVATOR
Gem Cabinets

SUPPLIES A SERVICE DIRECTLY TO THE BUILDER/RENOVATOR
Progressive Home Warranty Solutions Inc

GENERAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Progressive Home
Warranty Solutions Inc.

RECOGNITION AWARDS

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Bedrock Homes
Dolce Vita Homes
Effect Home Builders Ltd.
Gable Investments Ltd.

Habitat Studio

Jayman MasterBUILT
Landmark Group of Builders
Perry Signature Homes Inc.

Tapestry Developments Inc.

LEADERSHIP AWARD

Rohit Communities

BUILDER/REALTOR CO-OPERATION AWARD
Koshy Cherian
RE/MAX Real Estate Centre

PHBI NEW HOME BUYERS CHOICE AWARD
Lang Built Homes Ltd.
Cameron Homes Inc.

Homes by Avi (Edmonton) LP
Homes by Avi Urban
(Walker Lakes) Inc.
Brookfield Residential
Alberta LP

Carrington Construction
Edmonton Ltd.

BUILDER OF THE YEAR AWARDS
Kimberley Homes

BUILDER OF THE YEAR - LARGE VOLUME
Homes by Avi

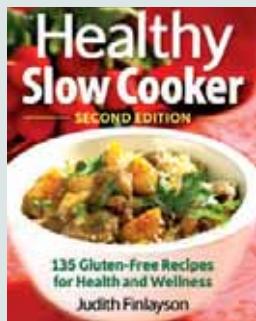
BUILDER OF THE YEAR - MULTI-FAMILY
Carrington Communities



Slow cooker meal packs protein punch

Cookbook of the Week

Slow and steady wins health race



In the follow-up to the first edition of The Healthy Slow Cooker, Judith Finlayson takes conflicting information about the changing face of dietary guidelines and balances it with a common-sense approach.

All the recipes in the book are deliciously nutrient-dense and have a rounded approach to meet a wide range of needs.

From soups and entrées to desserts, Finlayson uses the slow cooker to show readers how simple healthy eating can be. Among recipes are Easy Paella, Cheesy Grits, Bistro Fish Soup and more. **METRO**

Beef and Chickpea Curry with Spinach.

The Indian-inspired flavours will have your taste buds doing a happy dance

"I like to serve this with brown basmati rice, not only because I like its pleasant nutty flavor but also for its nutritional value," writes Judith Finlayson in her book The Healthy Slow Cooker, Second Edition.

1. In a skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add beef, in batches, and cook, stirring, adding additional oil if necessary, until browned, about 4 minutes per batch. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware.

2. Reduce heat to medium. Add onions to pan and cook, stirring, until softened, about 3 minutes. Add garlic, ginger, peppercorns, cinnamon stick and bay leaf and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add beef stock and bring to a boil.

3. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware. Add chickpeas and stir well. Cover and cook on Low for 8 hours or on High for 4 hours, until beef is tender. Add curry powder solution and stir well. Add spinach, in

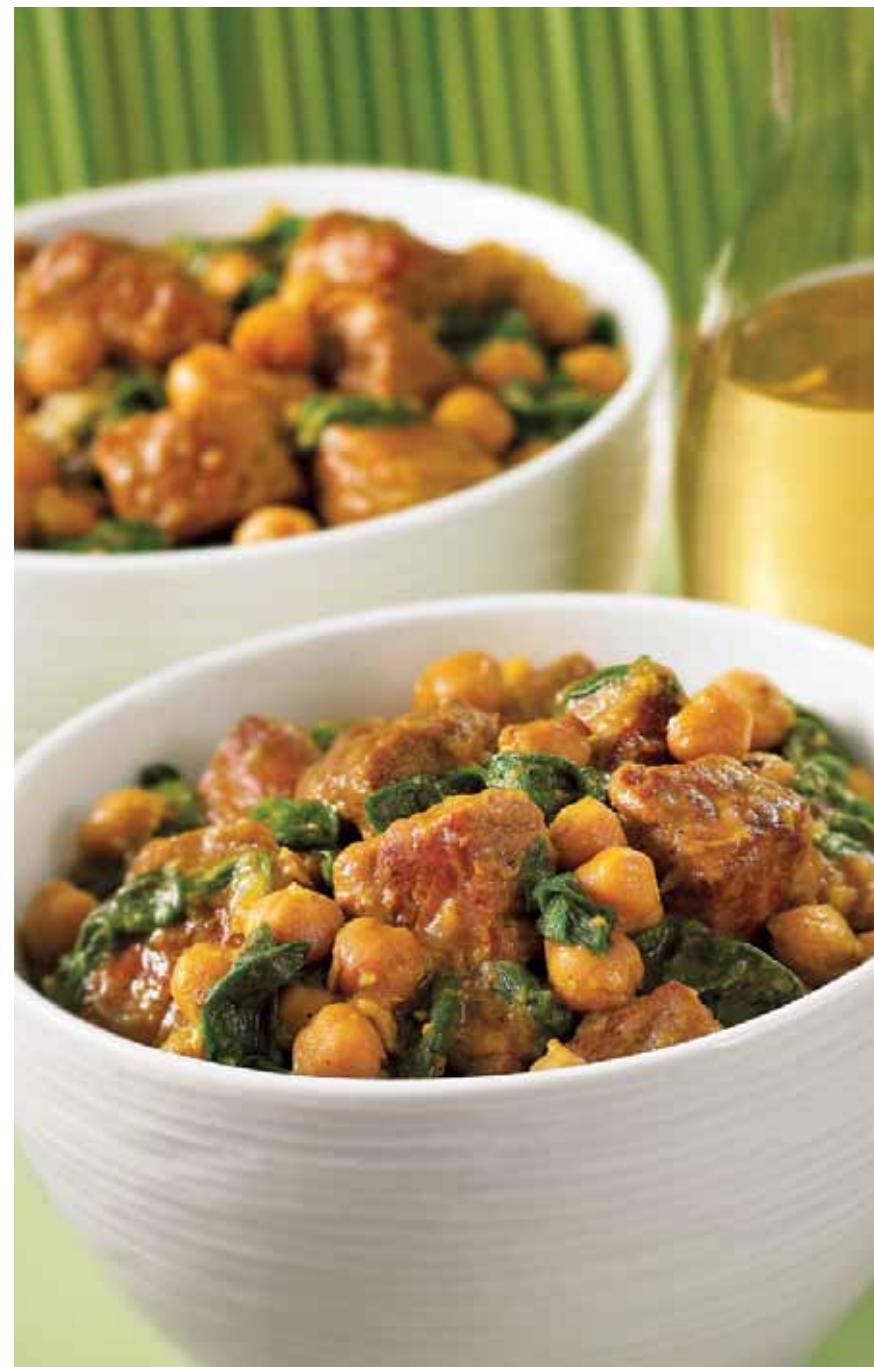
batches, stirring until each batch is submerged in the curry. Cover and cook on High for 20 minutes, until spinach is wilted. Discard cinnamon stick and bay leaf. Ladle into bowls and drizzle with yogurt, if using.

RECIPES COURTESY THE HEALTHY SLOW COOKER, SECOND EDITION BY JUDITH FINLAYSON, 2014 © ROBERTROSE.CA REPRINTED WITH PUBLISHER PERMISSION.

Ingredients and Tools

- Medium to large (3 1/2 to 4 quart) slow cooker
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
- 1 lb (500 g) trimmed stewing beef, cut into 1/2-inch (1 cm) cubes
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) minced gingerroot
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) cracked black peppercorns
- 1 piece (1 inch/2.5 cm) cinnamon stick
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 cup (250 ml) beef stock
- 2 cups (500 ml) cooked chickpeas, drained
- 1 tsp (5 ml) curry powder, dissolved in 2 tsp (10 ml) freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 lb (500 g) fresh spinach, stems removed
- 1 package (10 oz/300 g) spinach leaves, thawed if frozen
- Plain yogurt, optional

This recipe serves four. PHOTOS: COLIN ERICSON/ROBERTROSE.CA



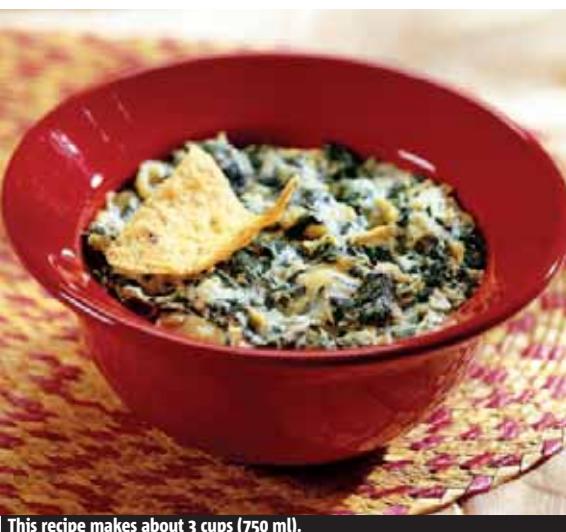
Appetizer. Spinach and Artichoke Dip

1. In slow cooker stoneware, combine shredded mozzarella, Neufchâtel cheese, Parmesan, garlic, artichokes, spinach and

black pepper. Cover and cook on High for 2 hours, until hot and bubbly. Stir well and serve with home-made tortilla chips.

Ingredients and Tools

- Small to medium (1 1/2 to 3 1/2 quart) slow cooker
- 1 cup (250 ml) shredded mozzarella cheese
- 6 oz (175 ml) Neufchâtel cheese, cubed
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) freshly grated Parmesan
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 can (14 oz/398 ml) artichokes, drained, rinsed and finely chopped
- 8 oz (250 g) trimmed fresh spinach leaves (about 8 cups/2 L)
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) black pepper



This recipe makes about 3 cups (750 ml).

For your phone

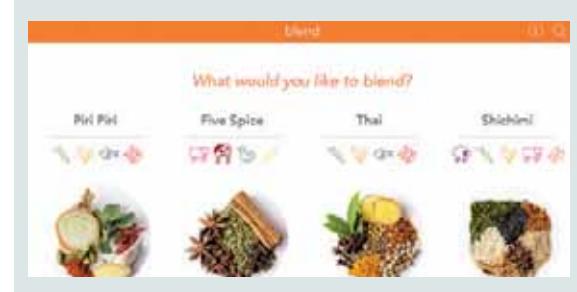
Blend (iPad; free)

This introductory guide to creating your own spice blends includes sixteen international recipes and videos on how to dry, roast,



MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

and grind seeds for sauces, seasonings, desserts, and soup flavourings.



NBA

Pacers beat Heat to clinch division

Paul George scored 23 points and Roy Hibbert had 21, leading the Indiana Pacers back from a seven-point fourth-quarter deficit for an 84-83 victory over the Miami Heat on Wednesday night.

The NBA's best home team ended a two-game losing streak, took a 2-1 lead in the season series against the two-time defending champions and rebuilt a three-game advantage in the race for the Eastern Conference's top seed. Indiana (52-20) also clinched its second straight Central Division crown, something it hadn't done since 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

LeBron James scored 38 points, but missed a potential go-ahead three-pointer late. Chris Bosh had a jumper at the buzzer to win it but it hit nothing but air.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Raps scrape past Celtics in Boston

Terrence Ross scored 24 points, Kyle Lowry 23 and the Toronto Raptors edged closer to their first playoff berth since 2008 with a 99-90 win over the Boston Celtics on Wednesday night.

DeMar DeRozan added 20 points for Toronto, which increased its Atlantic Division lead to 2 1/2 games over Brooklyn, which lost in Charlotte.

Toronto captured its 19th road win, one off the club record set 2000-01.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Kevin Martin, from left, will not be playing alongside Ben Hebert and Marc Kennedy following this season. GETTY IMAGES FILE

4 SPORTS

Departures leave Martin's future hazy

Quoted

"I sure wish none of this stuff (came) out. I'm not exactly sure how it did but it's too bad."

Kevin Martin on having the news of his second and lead's pending departures surface during the season and before the world championship.

loaded with significant roster changes.

As for the 47-year-old Martin, who has national, world and Olympic titles on his glowing resumé, he plans to take some time after the season to consider his future plans.

"I can't confirm that I'm looking for a new roster," Martin told The Canadian Press on Wednesday from Napa Valley, Calif. "But I can confirm that

Marc and Ben are going to curl with Kev, yeah. I haven't decided if I'm going to curl again at all."

In addition to Kennedy and Hebert, the new Koe foursome will also include Brent Laing of Team Glenn Howard, according to a recent Rogers Sportsnet website report.

Laing declined to comment and a message left with Howard was not immediately returned.

The timing of the news is less than ideal for Koe and his current lineup of third Pat Simmons, second Carter Rycroft and lead Nolan Thiessen, who will try to put the distraction aside as they prepare to play at the world championship in Beijing this Saturday.

Koe preferred to keep his focus on the upcoming competition and respectfully declined comment.

Rycroft, whose wife is pregnant, has already said he'll be taking a year off from the sport after this season. Simmons and Thiessen were not available for comment and their future plans remain unclear.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Graham DeLaet of Weyburn, Sask., plays a shot on the second hole during the first round of the World Golf Championships in Marana, Ariz., on Feb. 19. ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES

Oilers' fans need to go back to the future



THE HOCKEY NEWS
Ryan Kennedy
edmonton@metronews.ca

I was cleaning up my desk at The Hockey News the other day, moving stacks of issues from years past.

Every once in a while, I would come across a cover featuring three Oilers with some variation of "the future is here," as the sell.

There was the Andrew Cogliano/Sam Gagner/Dustin Penner cover, the Taylor Hall/Ryan Nugent-Hopkins/Jordan Eberle cover and finally the Nugent-Hopkins/Eberle/Justin Schultz cover. As Edmonton fans know, the future is yet to arrive.

In fact, this season has exploded like a water bottle, soaking coach Dallas Eakins and propelling all manner of towels and unwanted jerseys every-

where.

The rival Calgary Flames look better and more engaged every night and they have much less talent on their roster.

If you're an Oilers fan, I suppose you can once again hold out for the hope that comes with another high draft pick, but if Edmonton can't get in a position to nab defenceman Aaron Ekblad, I'm not sure what good that will do.

This draft crop is very forward-heavy at the top, with Haydn Fleury of the Red Deer Rebels the next-best blueliner after Ekblad, the Barrie Colts star who will step into the NHL right away.

Fleury would probably do best with another year of junior and a star turn at the world juniors.

As I've said before in this space, the Oilers don't have the team defence to get any sort of traction in

the NHL and plugging in a teenager (or two, with Darnell Nurse) isn't the answer.

Clearly the fans have hit a wall in terms of tolerating this mess, but it's going to be a long road back to respectability that I'm sure few have the appetite for.

In the meantime, what is a fan to do?

In order to maintain sanity, I would actually recommend taking in an Edmonton Oil Kings playoff game.

It's one of the best teams in major junior and the squad has a legitimate shot at another Western Hockey League title.

There are exciting players who are on the cusp of the NHL, from Griffin Reinhart to Curtis Lazar, and they give full effort.

It's not the NHL, but at least there's a present with the Oil Kings; not just a future.

DeLaet on course for mastery at Augusta

PGA. Canadian golfer not daunted by first bid for Green Jacket

Graham DeLaet won't be so much in awe of Augusta National Golf Club when he makes his Masters debut next month.

The native of Weyburn, Sask., made a trip to the fabled golf course last week. Although bad weather prevented him from playing a full round, he did walk the par-72, 7,435-yard layout and make mental notes regarding the lay of the land.

"It was drizzly rain and cold the first day and it was pretty tough on my body to swing in that kind of cold with that many layers on," DeLaet said during a conference call Wednesday. "The next day I was supposed to tee off at 8 a.m. and it was 33 degrees Fahrenheit so I just grabbed a couple of wedges and a putter and walked the golf course and chipped and putted because I knew it wasn't going to be good for

my body to play, unfortunately."

"But it was still very worthwhile to go and see the course ... and kind of get the 'wow' factor out of the way. It (the course) was pretty much perfect. It was a little bit soft because we had some rain but it was all I could ever imagine and expect it to be."

An ardent television viewer of past Masters tournaments — including Canadian Mike Weir's 2003 championship — DeLaet said actually walking the course was a learning experience.

And from what DeLaet saw, he has the game to potentially succeed at Augusta.

"I do feel the golf course suits my game pretty well," he said. "I mean, it's a big golf course.... You have to drive it well and hit your irons precisely."

On Tuesday, Weir, of Bright's Grove, Ont., told reporters he felt DeLaet, 32, could contend at Augusta.

"I think Graham obviously has the type of game that can do very well there," Weir said. "He hits it long, he hits it very high."

DeLaet said he always has butterflies when he hits his first tee shot to officially open a tournament. But having played previously in the British Open as well as last year's President's Cup, DeLaet feels he knows what to expect heading into his first Masters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Graham's great start

The five-foot-11, 165-pound DeLaet is enjoying a solid start to the PGA season.

- **In the hunt.** He's recorded five top-10 finishes, including two second-place efforts, and made the cut in eight of nine tournaments.
- **Ranking.** DeLaet stands 15th in the FedExCup standings.
- **Money talks.** He has already won more than \$1.6 million US this season and last season earned \$2.8 million and enjoyed seven top-10 finishes.



Desperate Canucks answer call of the Wild

Vancouver Canucks left wing David Booth reacts after scoring a second-period goal on Minnesota Wild goalie Darcy Kuemper during NHL action in St. Paul, Minn., on Wednesday. The Canucks won 5-2 and kept their slim hopes of qualifying for this year's Stanley Cup playoffs alive with the victory. Vancouver travels to Denver for a must-win game against the Colorado Avalanche on Thursday. ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Hopefully you will see solutions today where before you saw only problems. That applies to all areas of your life but especially to money matters and business issues that involve other people. Together you can make a profit and have fun.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Do you get involved in a feud between friends? You know the answer already, so don't be silly and stand between them to try to keep the peace. If you do, they will gang up on you.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

If you can get someone else to do some of your chores for you today then go for it. You have more important matters to take care of and you may not have energy to spare.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Others can sense your self-confidence and because of that they want to do things for you. Who are you to refuse any offers? It will give you more time to work on a creative project.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

If you need help over the next 24 hours come out and ask for it. If you wait for others to realize that you require assistance chances are you will never get it. They can't read your mind.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You will find it easy to express yourself today and, more importantly, others will find it easy to understand you. If you are involved in a creative pursuit this is also a good time to impress important people.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You'll hear something to your benefit today but your suspicious nature could hold you back from taking advantage. Unless there's evidence someone is trying to trick you, take a chance.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You'll find it easy to work out what is going on in someone's mind today, which in turn will help you decide what you should do next. You see the kind of body language that other people miss.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

It's not like you to withdraw into your shell but you may do so over the next 24 hours. That's OK. You have important issues to decide on and you won't think straight if there is too much noise around you.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

No matter how busy you may be work wise, make an effort to free up some time to spend with your loved ones. They are the people who really matter.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

A remark you toss out into the conversation may not be meant in a negative way but that's how one person may take it. If they do seem offended let them know that you meant no harm.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Something will happen today that makes you wonder if there is more going on behind the scenes. Make it your business to find out why certain people are acting so strangely – and use what you discover for your own advantage. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Weather

TODAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



MAX: -6°
MIN: -11°



MAX: -4°
MIN: -11°



MAX: -5°
MIN: -15°



MICHELE MCDOUGALL
WEATHER SPECIALIST

"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes." **WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- Crockett's "Miami Vice" partner
- Mythological blood
- Do
- ___ ease (jittery)
- Canadian specialty channel
- Constrictor
- Q. "John, George and Ringo ... who's missing?" A. "___ think!"
- Lawyer's briefcase items, briefly: 2 wds.
- Fishhook line
- Oohs' pals
- Funny person
- ___ buckle
- Traveller's li'l way
- Other
- Archie's jalopy, Ol. ___
- Furniture store
- Jeanne ___
- Actress Tara
- Google service
- "The Jetsons" character
- Boot bit
- Hog
- Self-congratulatory exclamation!: 2 wds.
- English river
- Medieval chest
- "No ___!" (Casual response to "Thanks.")
- Flashlight precursor
- Dad
- Nothing
- Certain currency
- Cook's need
- Bunch
- "Leggo!"
- Newfoundland community on the Burin Peninsula
- James ___ White House architect
- Photo
- ABBA's "___ Chance on Me"
- Country's Mr. Adkins
- Tricky
- Publicity
- Flower sort
- James ___
- Mongolia city, ___ Bator
- Oxford, NS: The '___
- Capital of Canada'
- The 'Royal Winipeg', for one, in dance: 2 wds.
- Neil Young bandmate, Stephen ___
- Island: Spanish Exonerate
- The Bay of Fundy is world famous for

Down

- Points
- Mongolia city, ___ Bator
- Oxford, NS: The '___

them: 2 wds.

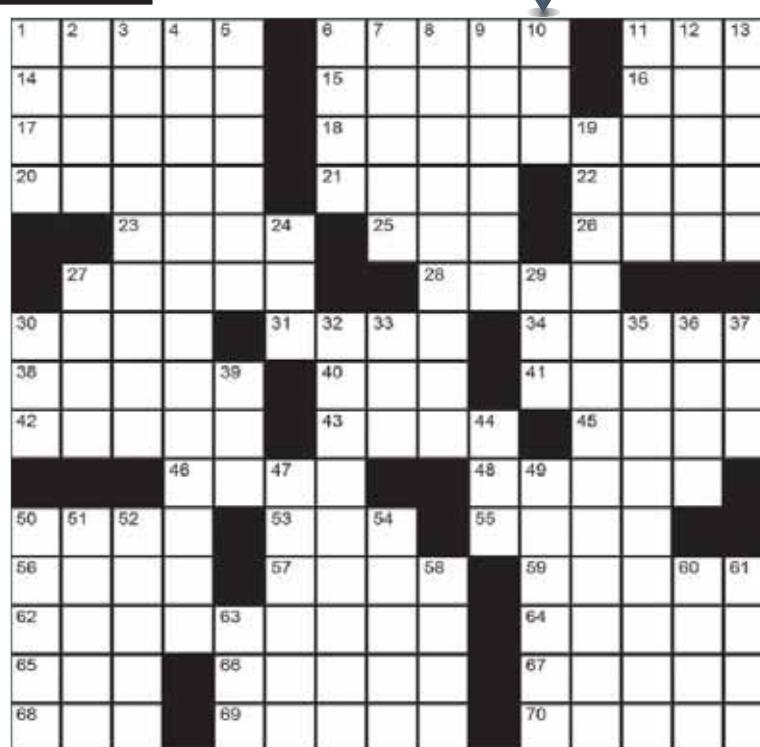
- Ric of The Cars
- Farm member
- Heated up, as in cooking
- Ms. Chanel's
- Preference
- 'And Now the Legacy Begins'
- Hip-Hop greats from

- Toronto: 2 wds.
- Norse god of strife
- Community in The Muskokas in Ontario that has an annual cranberry festival
- For instances, for short
- Actress Susan
- Where Mayor of Toronto Rob Ford was born
- Promissory note
- That which Canadian ace Billy Bishop had to engage in during WWI: 2 wds.
- Length measure
- Grassland
- "Blues" by The Beatles
- Printemps follower
- GM car safety system
- Alanis Morissette's: "You ___ Know"
- Showy workings
- Be of service
- A brother of Ron Weasley's in 'Harry Potter' books
- 17th-century English composer, Henry ___
- Scientific 'strands'
- Immobilizing spray
- Power [abbr.]
- "Plush" rock gr.



See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



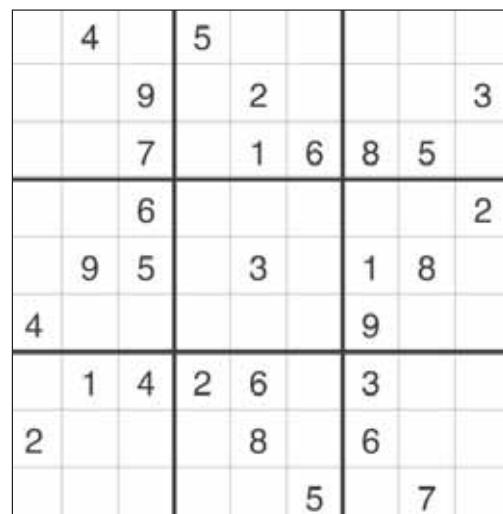
Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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